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AUGUST 1979

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 8

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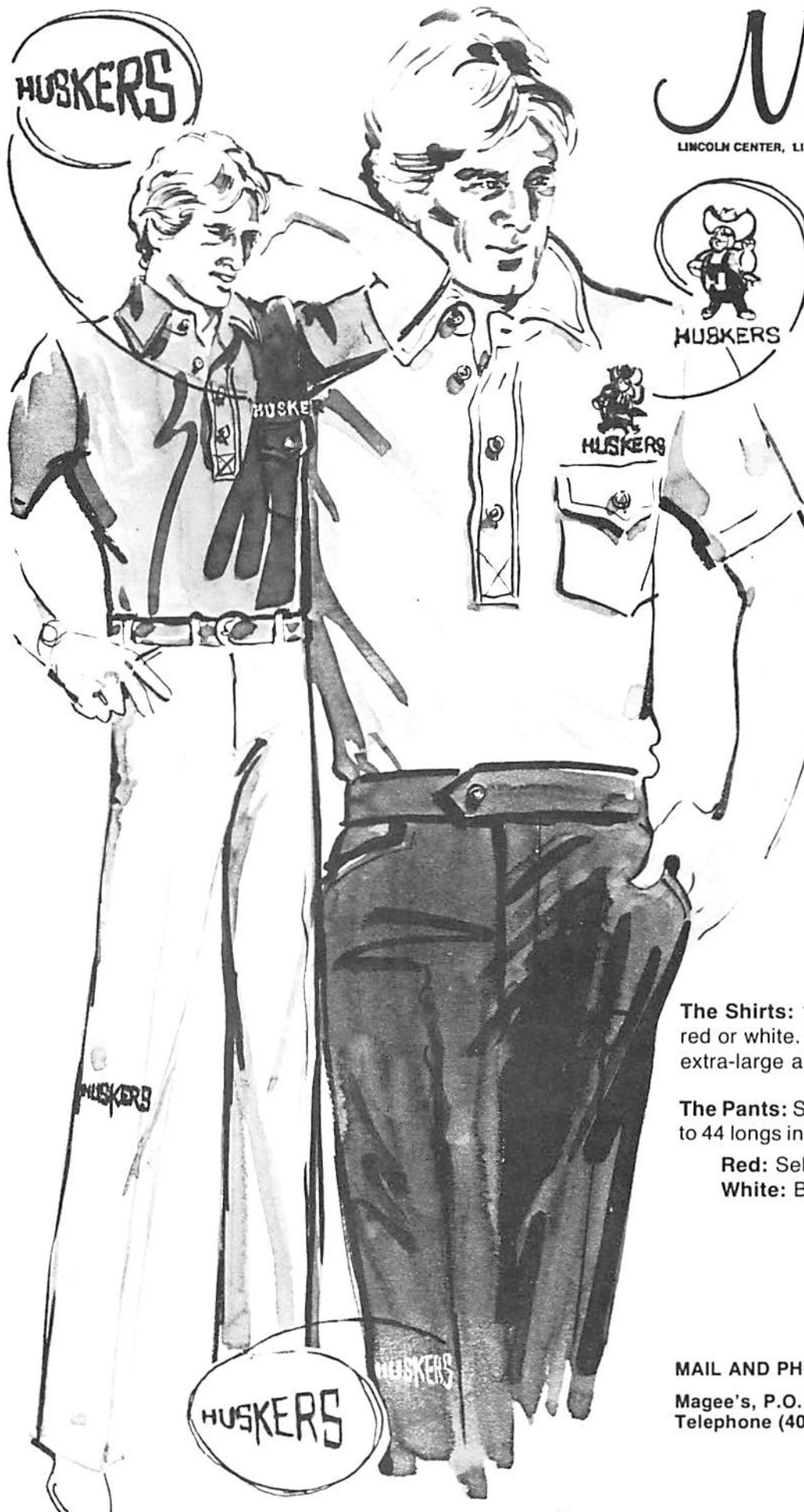
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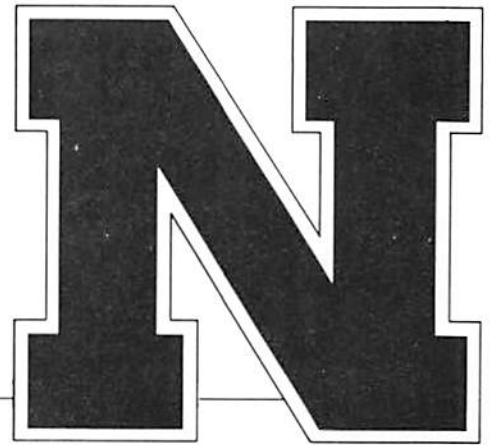
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On the cover: Hub of the Nebraska defensive line in 1979 figures to be nose guard Kerry Weinmaster. The 6-0 by 216-pound senior from North Platte may be the quickest middle man in Cornhusker history — and the best since Rich Glover.

Mike Hleviyak photo.

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His classmates and teammates may not see much of Andra Franklin after school or practices, but his presence is obvious on the field, where he leaves gaping holes in opposing defensive lines.

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1979 HUSKER FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

CORNHUSKERS



1979 FOOTBALL GUIDE

Sports Information Director Don Bryant is again editing a complete guide to Husker and Big 8 Football for use by press, radio and TV reporters. The book contains a review of the 1978 season and Orange Bowl, history, stories, records, prospects, pictures, statistics, and many other interesting features about the great Nebraska tradition.

Since fan requests have been very heavy, the 1979 Guide will again be available to the public. To obtain a copy of the "1979 Nebraska Football Guide" send a separate check payable to University of Nebraska for \$3.50 (Inc. tax & postage) to: Athletic Ticket Office, P.O. Box 82848, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501. Please enclose this card with your check.

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SCOUTING REPORT

UTAH STATE

To be honest about it, the state of Utah just doesn't receive much respect — especially when it comes to college football.

Oh, once in awhile Brigham Young will make it to some minor bowl game on the strength of an impressive passing attack, but Utah is generally considered void of marketable football talent. After all, ask any fan outside of Utah to name a college coach in the state. It just can't be done. Utah football is apparently one of the better kept secrets of the day.

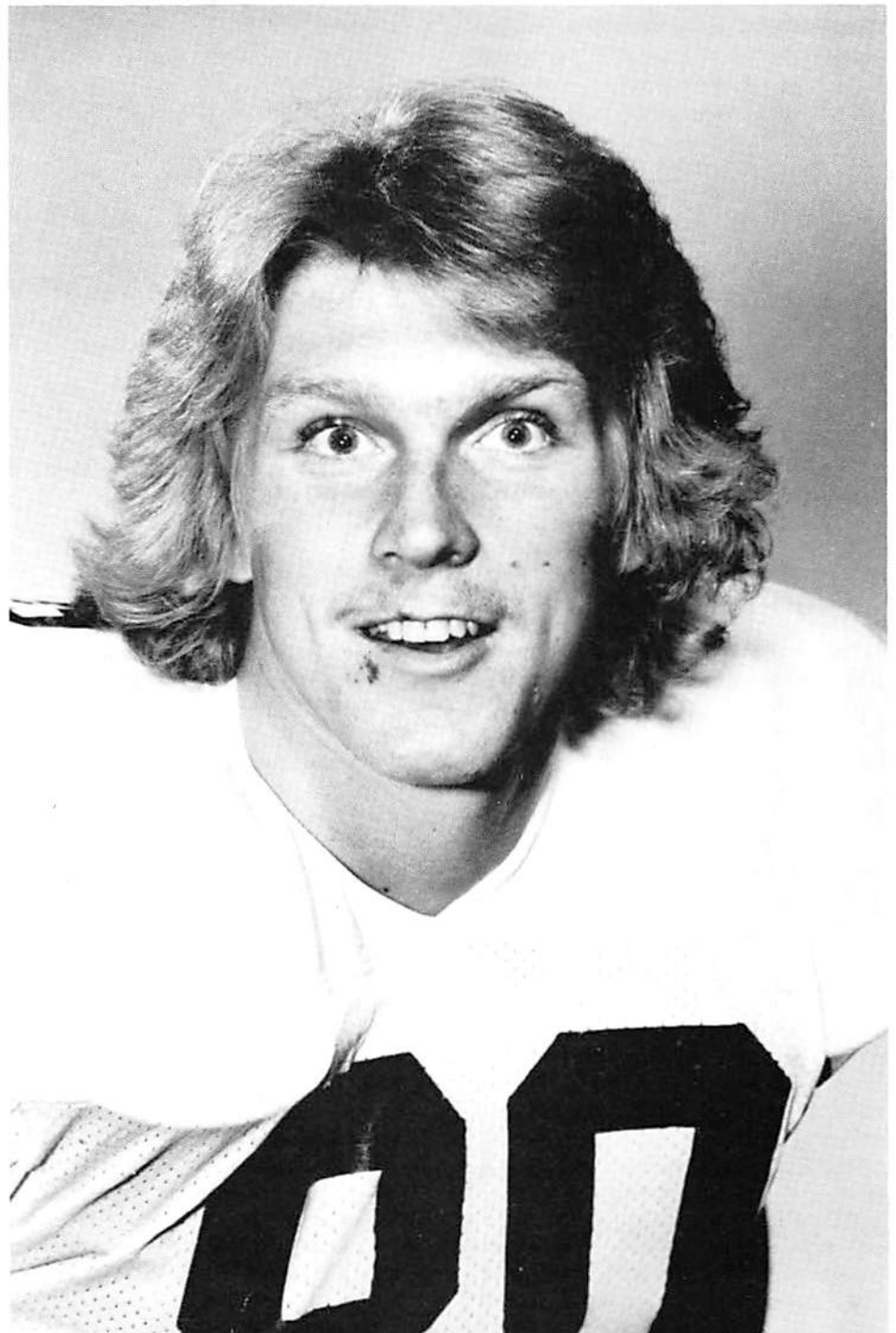
An industrious group in Logan, however, is trying to change all that. The rumor is that Utah State University football is back. The only question remaining is, "How long will it stay?" Indications are it might hang on long enough to cause Nebraska some problems when the Cornhuskers open the season against the Aggies in Lincoln on September 15.

Utah State may not be ready to win a Big Eight title, but the Aggies did manage to share the Pacific Coast Athletic Association crown in 1978 — their first year in the league. Head coach Bruce Snyder, a one-time assistant to John McKay at Southern Cal, has become somewhat of a local hero in his three years on the job and was voted FCAA "Coach of the Year" last season (which included a 5-0 start and a brief national ranking).

While Snyder has been unable to turn the heads of the national media, he at least has been able to upgrade a previously mediocre football program. He went from 3-8 his first year to 4-8 the second year and made the big step to 7-4 a season ago. Snyder isn't prepared to quit now, however.

"Aggie football for 1979 is in good shape," Snyder proudly stated. "We spent a lot of time looking for an offensive line,

Aggie insiders believe Rulon "Too Tough" Jones compares well with any Utah State defenders of the past — and those include Merlin and Phil Olsen. Jones runs the 40 in 4.7 seconds while packing 265 pounds on a 6-7 frame.



working to stabilize our performance in the secondary and planning to add to the versatility of our passing game. I think we have a chance to be a better football team than we were a year ago."

That happens to be a strong statement for a coach which has teams like Idaho State and Wyoming replaced on his schedule by the likes of Nebraska and Arizona State. Snyder must be making his prediction based on other factors — like the fact that he has 31 lettermen (17 on offense and 14 on defense) returning, even though only about one-third of the 31 could be termed returning starters.

There may not be many exceptional players on the Aggies' roster, but there is at least one such player — defensive tackle Rulon "Too Tough" Jones. In the last 20 years, Utah State has turned out quality linemen such as Merlin and Phil Olsen and Bill Staley. Snyder figures Jones measures well in any comparison with those three.

Jones has been a surprise during the three previous seasons. But now, at 6-7 and 265, he is 60 pounds heavier than he was as a freshman and, with a little publicity, might make it as an All-America.

"I honestly can't think of anything about his ability or the way he plays which displeases me," Snyder said. "He has a tremendous attitude about getting to the football. He truly thinks he can make every play. Physically, considering all he has going for him, he'll scare you to death. His speed is extraordinary for a man his size (4.7 seconds over 40 yards) and his combination of quickness and unusual strength make it impossible to block him one-on-one. It would be foolish to try.

"In the time I've been here, we haven't had an athlete who was able to perform on such a high level and such a consistent basis. At USC we had Gary Jeter and both have the same type of mobility, but Rulon is a bit faster and he's bigger and stronger. Putting it mildly, he's very aggressive."

Jones was so aggressive last year, he led the team in tackles with 104. Having Jones stop the opposition won't be enough against Nebraska, however. The Aggies will also have to find a way to score a few points — something Snyder is confident his team can do.

When speaking of the offense, Snyder is most impressed with quarterback Eric Hipple and tailback Rick Parros. The two need, respectively, 2,077 and 1,198 yards in their specialties to break the career records of Tony Adams and Louie Giammona — two athletes still active in the pros.

"I think we're in an outstanding situation with Hipple being fully the number one quarterback," Snyder noted. "He's developed leadership as he's gone on, and he understands the offense. I look forward to



Rick Parros needs 1,198 yards to surpass the Utah State rushing record held by Louie Giammona, which stands at 3,499 yards.

having an even better year than we had last year with him."

So, with Hipple passing or handing off to Parros, fullback Greg Martin or backup tailback Jerry Copeny, the Aggies have depth and talent in the backfield skill positions.

"With our running backs, we will be as good or better than last year," Snyder said. "Parros and Copeny give us a tremendous one-two punch at tailback, and Martin played absolutely great football all spring at fullback. If we stay healthy, that's going to be one of the strong points of our team."

It's the weakness of the offensive unit — the line — that has Snyder staying awake nights, however. Only guard Mike French, an all-league candidate, returns as a starter, even though four other lettermen are available for duty.

Despite the problems on the line, Snyder is still confident in the offense's ability to keep the Aggies in most games.

"We had not been a good streak (long passing) team," Snyder admitted, "but we will be better at that because we have stressed it. We are also going to be a good draw team. One of the interesting parts of our offense is what we do with our quarter-

back. We move him around so much it is difficult for the defense to know where to rush. We've added one more system that we've never had before in terms of where our quarterback is going to be and that will help. We also have become much more proficient at third and long and being able to get off the hook. Up until this year, we've been an excellent first-down team, second down not too bad, but when it came to third and long and we had to keep the drive going, we were not as good. Possibly we won't have to punt as much this year."

When the Aggies do punt, however, their fortunes are in good feet, so to speak. Punter Guy McLure was ninth in the nation last year and set a school-record, 43-yard average. If the Aggies get close enough for a field goal, Steve Steinke gets the call. Steinke made 18 of 24 three-point attempts last year, and that makes him the nation's top returnee in that category.

Utah State's offense appears to be in better shape than the defense as the season begins. Jones, of course, along with Kelly Kirwen, makes for an impressive defensive line — a line Snyder thinks good enough to repeat as league champions.

Three of four starters at linebacker are missing from last year, and Perry Drake and Elwood Threlfall, along with redshirt Ken Ciancone, are expected to fill in.

"It's not as strong a position as we had hoped for," Snyder conceded, "but we should at least be faster than we were a year ago. I still think our linebacking has the potential to be as good or better than a year ago."

The bigger question mark on the defense, however, is the secondary, where experience is hard to find. Cornerbacks Larry Hogue and Dennis Henderson became starters late last year and are still learning. Safeties Dave Parkin and Scott Tillotson are still dripping behind the ears and both have tough acts to follow. Still, Snyder has been surprised with what he's seen in practice and has more confidence than he had in the spring.

Even though it looks like the Aggies have better than average talent on the field, the team still may be hard pressed to repeat the record of a year ago.

"We have a depth problem and are really thin," Snyder complained. "One thing that is different than two years ago is that maybe the quality of our starters then was about the level of our backups now. Maybe we've progressed to where we've got more outstanding talent at each position, therefore the backups seem weaker. That might be true at a lot of positions, but it's not true on our offensive line. If we lose one or two players in key positions, it could ruin our season. Not having a lot of injuries is really going to be one of our keys."

And the Aggies' schedule this fall is what Snyder terms another "key" to a successful season.

"We have stiff early competition," he noted. "We open up with San Jose State on the road, a team that we tied last year for the championship. That, I think, is a key. And then we have to be able to go back and play Nebraska the second game. I reflect back to the last two big games we had — one with Penn State and one with Arkansas — since I've been here. We did not respond well after playing well against both of those clubs. So that's a key."

"The other key is that we have only four home games. Last year we made a concentrated effort to win on the road and we won all but one on the road. That is an area that we have worked on."

For the Cornhuskers, the Aggies may be an almost perfect season-opening opponent. Utah State doesn't have enough to compete with the national powers every weekend. But the Aggies should be strong enough to give the Nebraska faithful a little more respect for football in the state of Utah.

— Terrence W. McEvilly

YOU'RE THE COACH

"You're the Coach" is designed to provide you with all the pertinent statistics necessary for an accurate evaluation of these two teams' strengths and weaknesses. Add the information in "You're the Coach" to the more specific information in the Scouting Report, and you'll have a working knowledge of both teams' individual players and team characteristics. Now, who's going to win? That's for you to decide, because "You're the Coach!"

1978 Cumulative Statistics

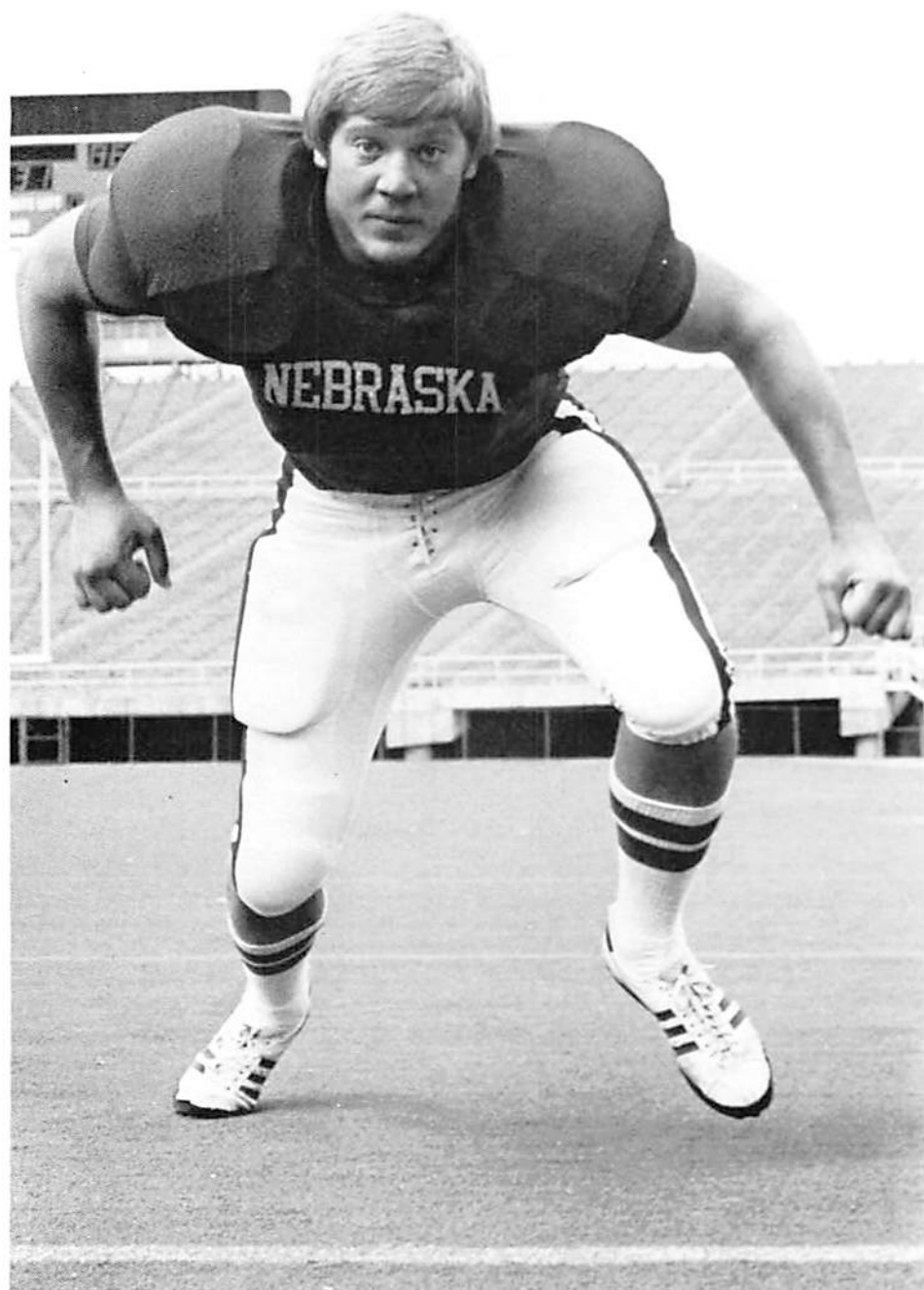
	NU	Utah State						
1979 Record to Date	0-0	0-0	FUMBLES/LOST	34/20	31/19			
Returning Starters	12	13						
1978 Overall Record	9-3	7-4	PENALTIES/ YARDS	63/650	71/723			
TEAM OFFENSE								
Rushes attempted	752	508						
Yards gained	4185							
Yards lost	222		INDIVIDUAL OFFENSE*					
Net yards gained	3936	1775	Rushing	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Avg. gain per rush	5.2	3.4	(NU) Hipp	191	1002	5.2	7	
Touchdowns	41	20	(NU) Franklin	86	483	5.0	3	
			(US) Parros	221	966	4.3	7	
			(US) Copeny	73	344	4.7	2	
Passes attempted	229	302						
Passes completed	134	155	Passing	PA	PC	PI	YDS	TD
Passes intercepted	10	17	(NU) Hager	16	10	0	185	1
Percentage	.585	.513	(NU) Quinn	6	4	1	44	0
Total Yards	2020	2168	(US) Hipple	287	150	15	2088	9
Touchdowns	15	9	(US) Bradshaw	11	3	2	34	0
Passes caught	134	155	Receiving	NO	YDS	Avg.	TD	
Total yards	2020	2168	(NU) Miller	33	609	18.3	6	
Avg. gain per catch	15.1	13.9	(NU) Brown	28	410	14.6	2	
Touchdowns	15	9	(US) Parros	19	110	5.7	0	
TEAM DEFENSE								
Rushes attempted	594	515	INDIVIDUAL DEFENSE*					
Yards gained	2372		Tackles	Solo	Assisted			
Yards lost	422		(NU) Horn	46	18			
Net yards gained	1950	3643	(NU) Weinmaster	44	18			
Avg. gain per rush	4.6	3.2	(US) Jones	20	78			
			(US) Kirwan	27	69			
Passes attempted	231	282						
Passes completed	100	181	Interceptions					
Passes intercepted	13		(NU) Means	3				
Percentage	.433	.500	(US) Henderson	2				
Total yards	1566	1948						
PUNTING								
Number	50	55	Fumble Recoveries					
Yards	1958	2367	(NU) Nelson	3				
Avg.	39.2	43.0	(NU) D. Clark	3				
Longest	60	73	*Returning players listed					

*Returning players listed

JIM PILLEN - TOM OHRT

DREAMS TO FULFILL

by Mike Babcock



Jim Pillen entered the Missouri locker room at the southeast end of Memorial Stadium. It seemed like hours since the Tigers had defeated Nebraska 35-31 in the 1978 Big Eight regular-season finale for both teams.

Pillen slipped through the few remaining Missouri fans outside the locker room, shadows in the gathering night, and into an atmosphere heavy with the joy of a post-game celebration and news that the Tigers were headed to the Liberty Bowl.

Missouri players were still filtering out of their cramped visitor's quarters and onto the team bus when Nebraska's senior monster back entered and began to look for MU coach Warren Powers.

Pillen's dream of a shot at Penn State and a national championship showdown in the Orange Bowl had been frozen in the dreary afternoon of that Saturday, but the senior from Monroe was laying the groundwork for another dream, one of graduate school and a career as a veterinarian.

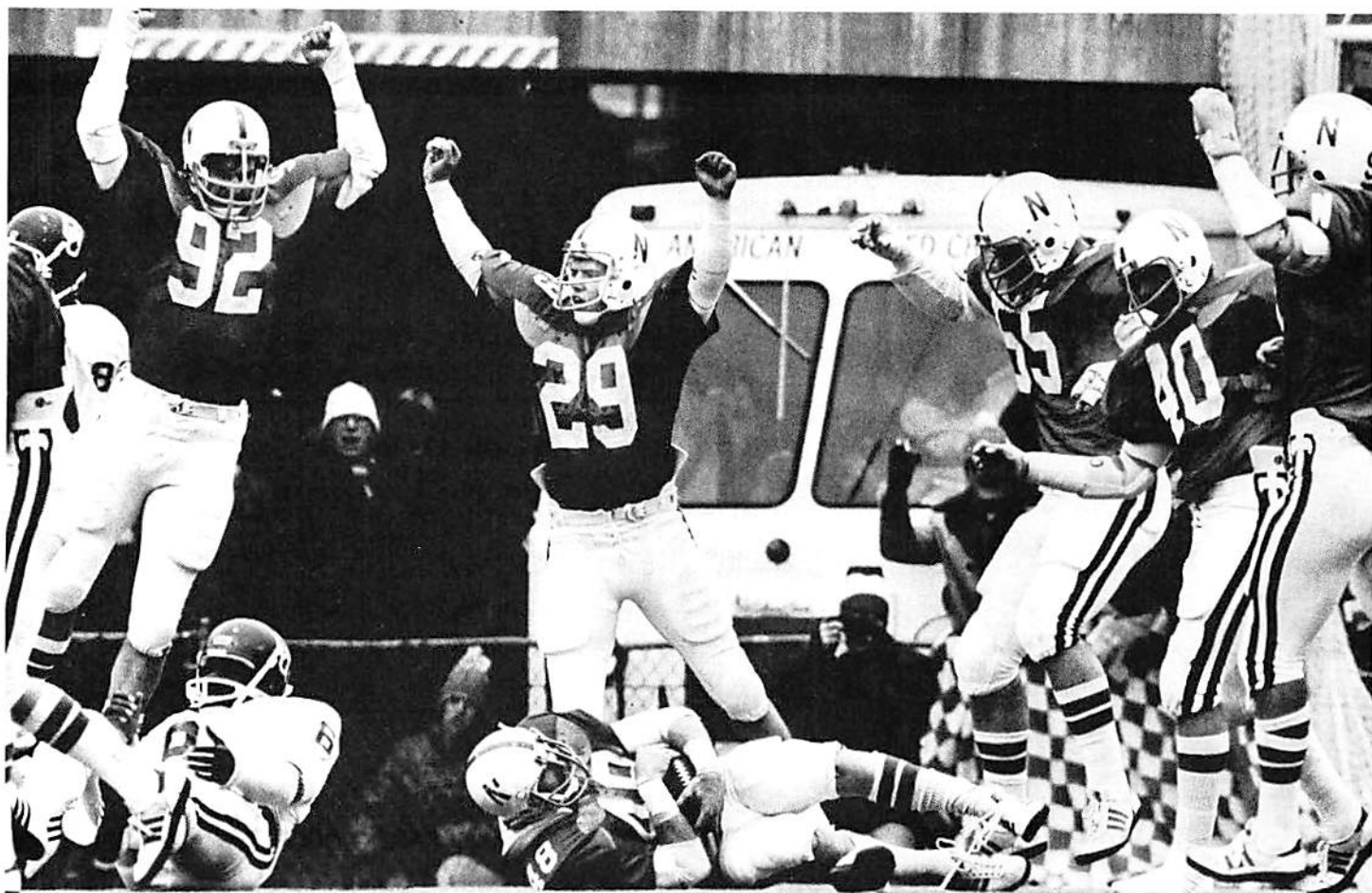
There was no time to ponder the day's disappointment. "You can't look back," said Pillen.

He had his mind set on being accepted into a post-graduate program in veterinary medicine, and the bitter loss couldn't change that. Missouri has a good vet program, and that's why Pillen was looking for Powers.

"I had played for him three seasons, and I wanted to see if he could get me a recommendation," Pillen said of the Nebraska graduate and former assistant coach. "I figured the chances of getting into vet school are so few and far between, the more places I applied, the better my opportunities."

His football career was one game from being over, and Jim Pillen had no illusions

Tom Ohrt realized quickly his dream of playing defensive end was mired in his lack of quickness. But the big offensive tackle fared far better in his medical school ambitions.



Jim Pillen (29) leads the Nebraska celebration near the Cornhuskers' goal as Jeff Hansen curls around a fumble by OU's Thomas Lott. Derrie Nelson (92), Rod Horn (55), Bruce Dunning (40), George Andrews and an American Red Cross unit surround the action.

Ted Kirk photo.

of prolonging what had been so good to him. By the time the National Football League draft of college players rolled around, nearly six months later, he was anticipating his acceptance into veterinary school.

None of the 26 NFL teams drafted him, but when Pillen was finally accepted by Kansas State's veterinary school — he could have gone to Missouri or Iowa State as well — he was as excited as a first-round draft choice.

"I guess one thing people have asked me more than anything else is, was I disappointed about not being drafted? I wasn't the least bit. It was a big challenge just trying to make the football team at Nebraska, and I really never did visualize myself playing pro football," Pillen said. "My heart wasn't in that.

"Playing at Nebraska was a lifetime dream, but becoming a veterinarian is like a lifetime dream, too," he said.

The concept of scholar-athlete, a dying value on some college campuses, lived in NU jersey number 29 for four varsity seasons. In a world where cutting classes can be a daily routine for some, Pillen came to the university for an education.

So did many of the other Cornhuskers,

like big No. 74, Tom Ohrt, the quiet tackle from Millard who was part of one of the best offensive lines in Nebraska history.

Even though he wanted to be a defensive end, Ohrt never played anything but offensive tackle for the Cornhuskers. "The coaches realized I was too slow to play anywhere else," he said with a laugh.

Ohrt wasn't courted by any of the NFL teams. He was accepted by Nebraska's medical school in Omaha before the Cornhuskers even left for a Miami rematch with Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl and never ran one 40-yard dash for a professional scout.

When the Orange Bowl ended, so did Ohrt's football playing career. His thoughts turned to medicine, four more years of school, and at least two years of residency work. No longer does he need to worry about footwork and pass blocking, audibles and blitzing linebackers.

Those things weren't easy to give up, but like Pillen, Tom Ohrt held a two-fold dream in high school: he wanted to play football at Nebraska, and he wanted to become a doctor.

His new challenge cannot be diagrammed on a chalkboard or analyzed by watching yards and yards of film unwind

through a coach's projector.

In 4½ years at Nebraska — he red-shirted in 1975 — Ohrt maintained a 3.56 grade-point average in life sciences.

The dual demands on his time added an extra semester to his work in the classroom. "Most people don't realize the time you put into football. You can't get through school as fast, and you have to budget your time well in order to do both," said Ohrt.

Jim graduated from Nebraska with a 3.7 grade-point average.

Like Ohrt, he faces more than four years of graduate study, and "maybe by then I'll decide I want to do research," Pillen said.

But it's more likely he'll become a veterinarian and return to Nebraska.

Someday, the football awards and Cornhusker team pictures will probably hang on the wall of a doctor's office, alongside medical degrees and certifications. For the time being, Jim Pillen and Tom Ohrt must pursue dreams which got a boost on the football field but ended in the classroom.

Two more dumb jocks? Not a chance. "Dr. Ohrt, Dr. Pillen . . . it's time to see your next patient." ★

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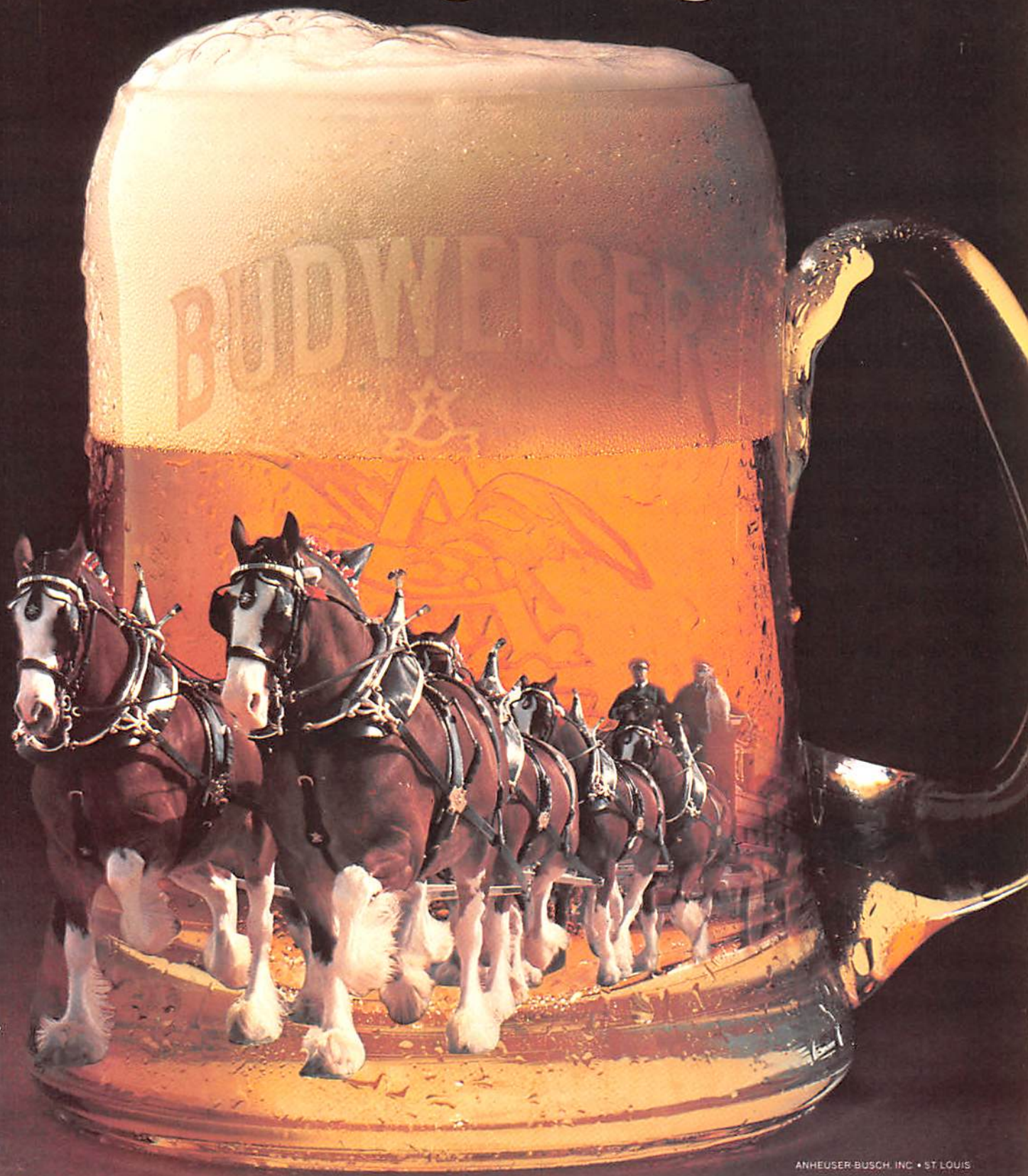
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ANDRA FRANKLIN

Blocking Does His Talking

by Mike Babcock

Ursula Walsh, Nebraska's athletic department academic counselor, had decided that Andra Franklin didn't like her. The freshman fullback from Anniston, Alabama, never smiled or talked much when he came to Ursula's South Stadium office to work on his studies, and she was convinced something had gone wrong between them.

"Finally I asked, 'Have I done something to offend you?' and all of a sudden, he started laughing," Dr. Walsh said. "He was shy, that's all."

Franklin has never been much of a talker. You get the impression the Sphinx would sound like Rona Barrett next to Nebraska's big junior; his monologues run maybe eight or 10 words.

"Gabby" would be a misnomer of the highest order.

A Senate sub-committee might get Franklin to open up the way he opens holes for Nebraska running backs. But anything short of that leaves him as silent as a vacuum.

Franklin is not inarticulate, he's just plain quiet. He prefers to maintain a low profile, which was never "lower" than during his freshman year in Lincoln. That's when Dr. Walsh wondered about his attitude toward her.

Andra was Nebraska's invisible man that first season. Three days into fall drills, he was elevated to the varsity. But, says former roommate Isaiah Hipp: "The only time you saw him was during practice. If you didn't see him at practice, you didn't see him."

What could be seen were the gaping holes Franklin sometimes left in the defensive line, clearly-defined bits of evidence he had been there. Running backs could see the footprints, but the source of those prints was as elusive as Big Foot.

Such holes became more common last fall when Franklin earned his second varsity letter. And Hipp is hoping the fullback can produce enough of them this year to enable Isaiah to generate a third consecutive 1,000-yard rushing season.

Not only would it be the first time a Cornhusker has accomplished such a feat, but it might also mark the first time in NCAA history a 1,000-yard rusher followed a fullback who failed to generate 1,000 words in the same time span.

"Andra still tends not to say much. He's

quiet, and he always will be. But he'll talk the way people want him to talk Saturdays ... on the field. And that's all that counts," Hipp said.

Like any fullback who was a star tailback in high school, Franklin prefers to run with the football. In his two seasons at Nebraska, he's carried it 109 times and produced 526 yards. On only three occasions has he been tackled for lost yardage.

His net loss is eight yards, ranking him in the company of former Cornhuskers like Dan Schneiss, Pete Tatman and Jerry Brown. Those fullbacks were always moving forward, nothing fancy, just plugging ahead.

Brown gained 1,096 yards in his NU career and lost only eight. Schneiss and Tatman lost eight yards, combined.

Franklin seems headed in the same direction, though in his ball-carrying debut as a freshman against Alabama, he fumbled in his only try.

The next Saturday against Baylor, when Hipp gained 122 yards on his first step towards becoming college football's most famous walk-on, Franklin gained 15 yards in four carries. That effort earned him the chance to carry the ball again, four games later.

One of the most memorable occurrences during his first Big Eight season took place in Columbia, Missouri, where Nebraska defeated the Tigers 21-10. That afternoon, Franklin carried four times for seven yards, not even enough for a first down and hardly reason to draw the ire of the home fans.

But as he was walking to the locker room, someone gave him an early shower. It wasn't fruit, although "you might call it that," said Andra. "I think it was bourbon."

He didn't exactly burst onto the college football scene, but at least he was properly christened.

Franklin's first Cornhusker touchdown came on a two-yard plunge last season against California; his longest run from scrimmage, 21 yards, occurred against Indiana; and his best rushing day came in Nebraska's 17-14 victory over Oklahoma. He went into the quick Sooner defense 13 times for 65 yards.

He cherishes such memories and dreams of getting the quarterback's call, but his first responsibility is blocking. That's what Franklin does best, and he has slowly come to accept it.

"I want to run the ball more, sure, but I

can get the same glory by blocking," he said, sounding more convinced than he might have two seasons ago.

"I didn't do much blocking in high school, and I didn't enjoy it at first," said Franklin. "When you first start to do it, it's not much fun. But now I like to put somebody to the ground."

"A good block is when you slow the defender down ... and let him know he's been hit."

Franklin's attitude about blocking has been shaped by Nebraska's offensive backfield coach Mike Corgan, a grizzled veteran of 17 NU seasons who appreciates a back who isn't afraid to stick his nose into a fracas once in a while.

Franklin remembers the first day he met his coach. "I thought, 'That's him? Oh, oh, Andra; you're in for it now.'"

He also remembers that for a while, Corgan kept getting him and Hipp mixed up. "Sometimes he'd think I was Isaiah," Franklin said.

Corgan comes from a school of coaching which believes that the way to pick up yards is to drop defenders in their tracks. Put simply, "he likes hitting," said Franklin.

He also likes fullbacks who are big and strong. Franklin comes closest to fitting that mold among this year's candidates for the backfield's main blocking position: at 6-1, he weighs 218 pounds and runs 40 yards in :04.6.

It takes a quick defender to get out of Andra's way.

Corgan is not one to get carried away with praise, but it's apparent he likes Franklin. "Andra is a pretty fair fullback," he says as he draws on his pipe.

"Most of all, we lack size at fullback, and Andra is the nearest to qualifying for the things fullbacks are supposed to do."

Head coach Tom Osborne is even more generous in his evaluation of Franklin's fullback talents. Speaking at a golf stag in late July, Osborne called his number one fullback "one of a kind at his position. Andra might be the best fullback we've ever had."

Such potential was apparent from the beginning. Nebraska lured Franklin away

Andra Franklin, smallish for a Big Eight fullback at 6-1 by 218, will carry more than one tackler forward this fall. The quiet Alabamian will spend a lot of downs knocking down someone for the bevy of NU I-backs.



from his Alabama home despite the fact that he had signed a Southeastern Conference letter-of-intent with the Crimson Tide.

Few quality home-state players, particularly ones who live less than 60 miles away from Legion Field in Birmingham, escape Bear Bryant. But Andra did.

A two-time all-state selection who gained over 1,000 yards his senior season, Franklin was most heavily recruited by Alabama, Georgia Tech and Auburn. When he made his official visit to Tuscaloosa, to meet the Bear and see the Crimson Tide swamp Louisiana State, he thought he was sold.

"I wasn't pressured into it as much as I was excited into signing," Franklin said.

But after signing the SEC letter, Andra didn't hear from Alabama again, and he began to have second thoughts about his hasty decision. So he made a December visit to Nebraska.

When he saw the Cornhuskers' weight-training facilities and experienced the enthusiasm at an NU basketball game, Franklin decided he had made a mistake.

"I wanted to come here," he said.

No one promised Franklin he would play on the varsity as a freshman. That wasn't part of the attraction. But he came, struggled with some initial homesickness, and finally earned a letter, all in that first

year.

Monte Anthony, Keith Steward, and Dodie Donnell were Nebraska's incumbent fullbacks during Franklin's first season on campus. Under most circumstances, they would have been reason enough to consider a red-shirt year for a youngster like Andra.

Anthony already had earned three varsity letters and gained 2,062 yards by alternating between fullback and I-back. Donnell had two letters and was NU's number one fullback the previous season, and Steward lettered in a substitute's role.

So Franklin's equipment was lockered in the North Stadium, where it appeared to have a home with the other freshmen for at least one year.

But after three days of drills, on August 20, 1977, Andra remembers toting his gear down the track and into the varsity quarters.

Donnell was suffering from a pulled hamstring, and Anthony and Steward still hadn't reported for practice. They were getting some schoolwork finished, and Nebraska needed a fullback.

"Fullback was a problem, and I was one of the biggest freshmen (backs)," said Franklin of his promotion.

Andra weighed 195 pounds as a freshman. Corgan told him that would have to

change. "He wanted me to gain more weight in order to be a fullback," said Franklin. "He told me what kinds of fullbacks had played for him and what a good size was."

Franklin gained 20 pounds without losing speed. According to Corgan, he was about right.

That didn't mean Andra was Nebraska's number one fullback heading into fall camp his sophomore season. Senior Richard Berns had that distinction, moving into a new spot so he and Hipp could be in the same backfield.

Franklin wasn't officially listed as a starting fullback until the seventh game of the season, against Colorado. He responded by gaining 25 yards in seven carries.

Heading into his third varsity season and still only a junior, Franklin is more relaxed and confident. He still gets nervous watching game films, knowing a mistake he made is about to appear on the screen. He says Corgan is an excellent "film critic," better, perhaps, than Rex Reed when it comes to cutting through to the point.

All sorts of methods are used in an effort to circumvent Andra's blocking — and he absorbs blows from every direction as Colorado's Steve Doolittle tries to bat down this Tom Sorley-to-Rick Berns aerial.



"Before it happens, I know he's going to see it, and I know he's going to say something. Everything shows up on film, and he'll make some crack about it," Franklin said.

Those cracks are what keep Andra on his toes and learning the intricacies of blocking. "Coach Corgan is the best coach I've ever had," Andra quickly adds.

Corgan called Franklin's sophomore improvement as a blocker "50 per cent better" than when he was a freshman, and the NU coach is hoping that learning can continue.

"He does a lot of talking about the correct way to do things . . . and he has some drills," Franklin said.

Those won't change and neither will Franklin when it comes to carrying out his responsibilities. But he says he's opening up a little more these days, talking and meeting people.

Franklin even thinks a career as a radio broadcaster sounds like an interesting career goal after he gives professional football his best shot. Andra likes music, he passes time with jazz and disco, and someday he might like to be the guy who plays the records on some music radio station.

It's tough to feature Franklin as the jockey who spins the wax, a kind of Wolfman Jack with his faster-than-the-speed-of-light monologues "coming at you on K-DRA."

But Andra says he'd like to try it.

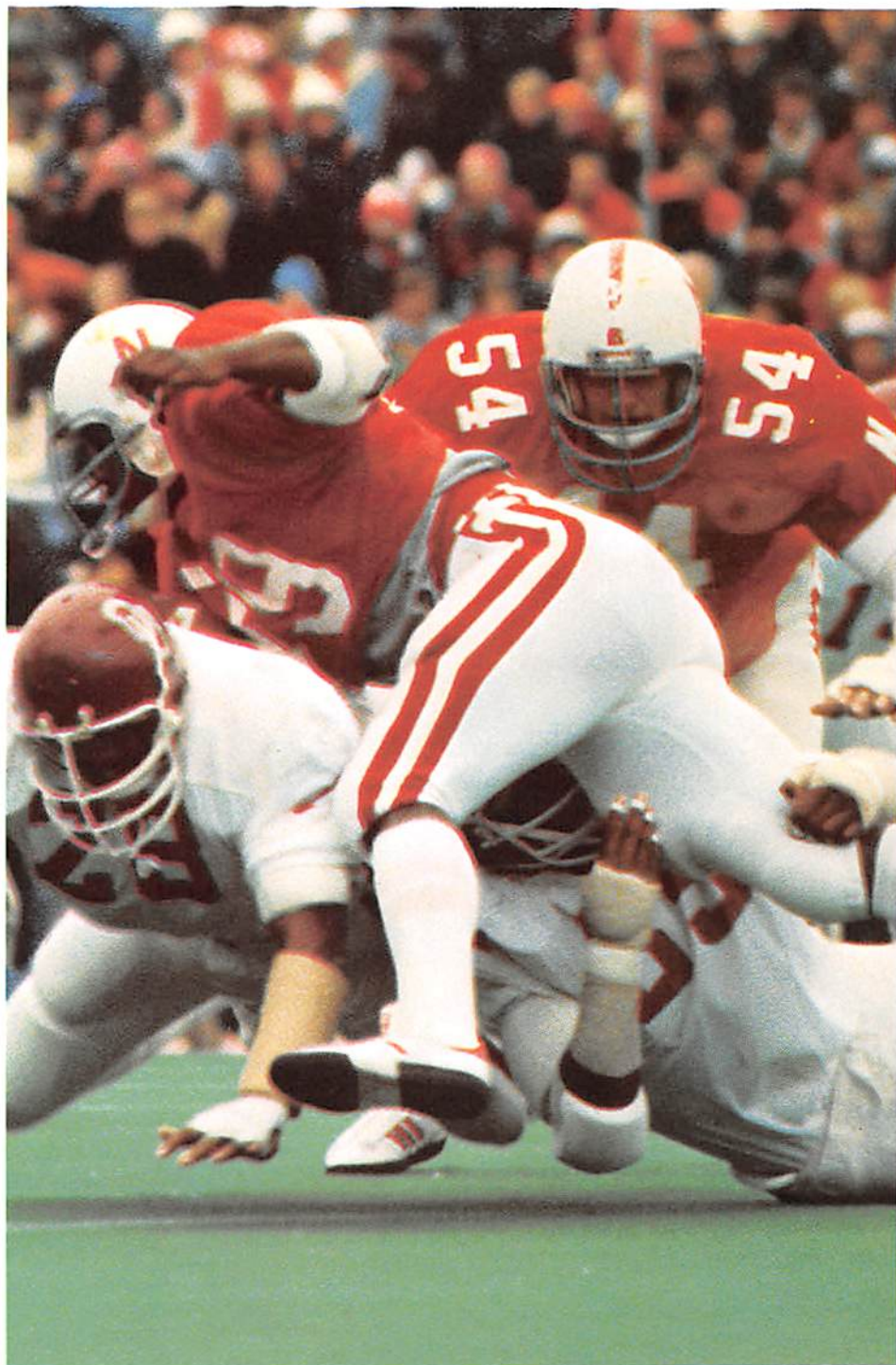
"Like now, I'm more outspoken than I have been. It's not a conscious thing; it's just coming more naturally," Franklin said. "There comes a time when everyone has to speak out."

Ursula Walsh has to agree.

"Andra's matured a lot over the summer," she said. ★

Franklin unsuccessfully tries to divide and conquer a pair of OU defenders. Note the brute force Andra generates from his powerful thighs.

Mike Hlevyack photo.



Big Red Gallery

PAVING A PATH

Running backs receive the glory, but not without an ample assist from the unsung heroes in the offensive line. Fullback Andra Franklin follows the well-executed blocking scheme of tackles Kelvin Clark (73) and Tom Ohrt (74) and tight end Junior Miller (89). Clark was a 1978 All-America selection while Miller was an All-Big 8 performer.

The Cornhusker offense, perennially one of the strongest in the country, finished first nationally in 1978 with a 501.4 yards per game average. Nebraska also enjoyed national runnerup status in rushing offense (337.7) and scoring (38.2).

Returning only Miller and center Kelly Saalfeld, the Cornhuskers face a mammoth rebuilding project in the front wall, but history has proven they are capable of meeting the task.





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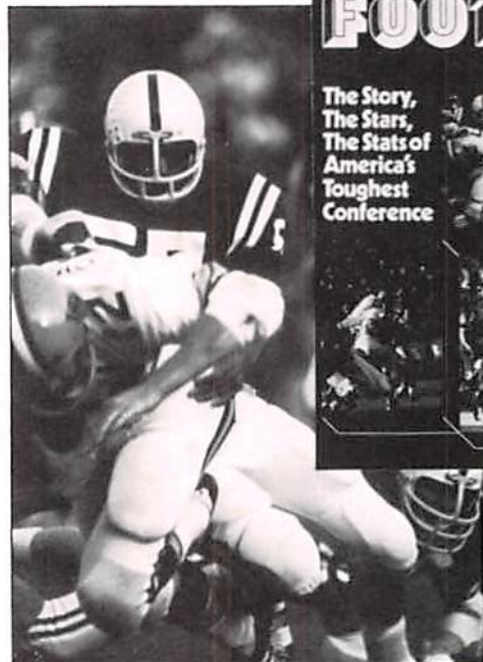
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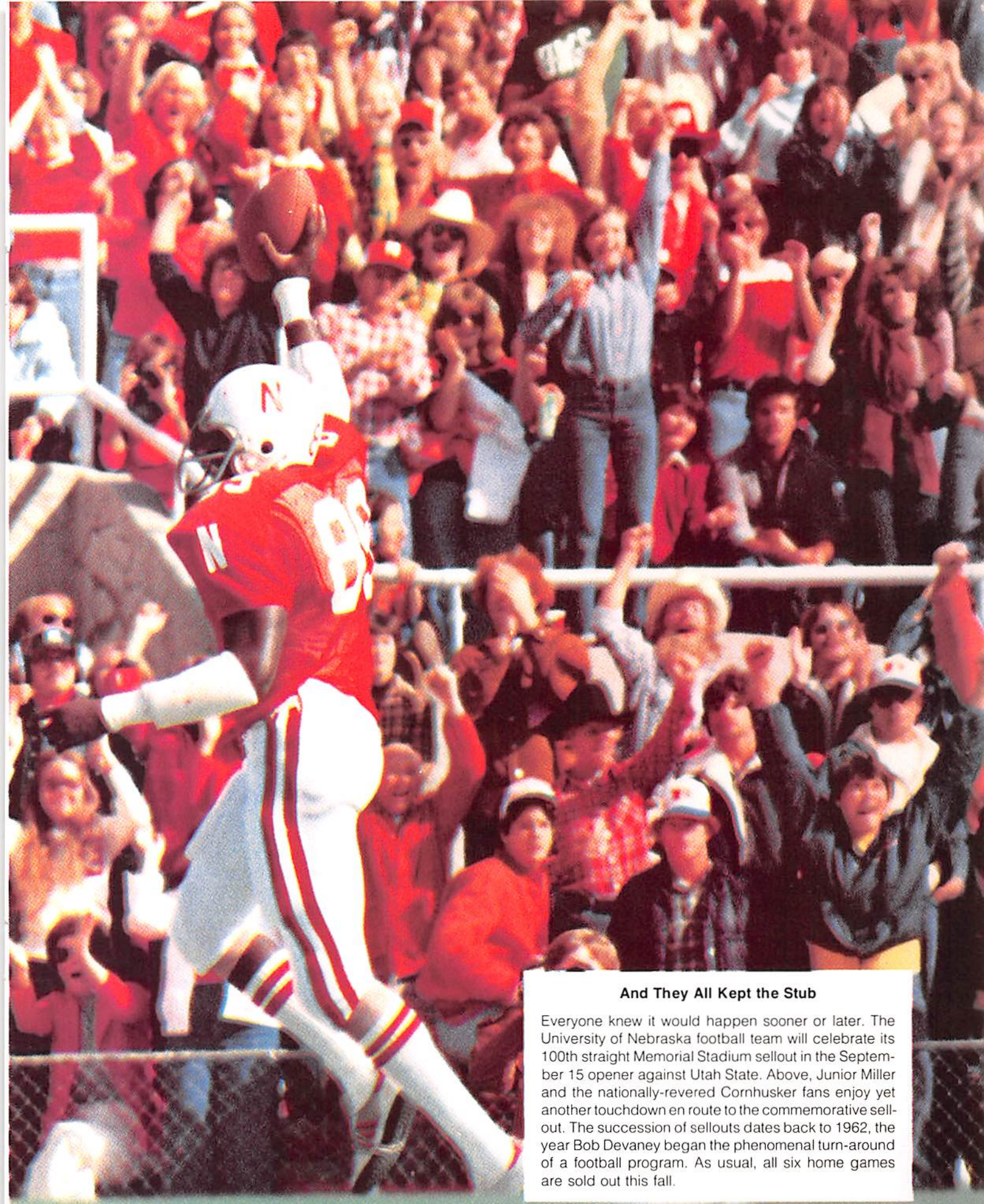
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And They All Kept the Stub

Everyone knew it would happen sooner or later. The University of Nebraska football team will celebrate its 100th straight Memorial Stadium sellout in the September 15 opener against Utah State. Above, Junior Miller and the nationally-revered Cornhusker fans enjoy yet another touchdown en route to the commemorative sellout. The succession of sellouts dates back to 1962, the year Bob Devaney began the phenomenal turn-around of a football program. As usual, all six home games are sold out this fall.

An 'e' for Each Element: 'Deeeeeeeeeee-fense'

by Randy York

If championship football teams are built on defense, then Nebraska may move into the Big Eight mansion by itself this fall.

The Huskers, the NCAA's leading team in total offense over the last five years, could have their best defensive team in Tom Osborne's seven-year tenure as head coach.

"If you're one of those who thinks defense wins championships, then we should be a factor. But if you're one of those who goes with a proven quarterback, then we won't be as much of a factor right away," Osborne told a gathering of 1,000 at the Big Eight's annual kickoff luncheon in Kansas City earlier this month.

Nebraska will plunge into the season September 15 at home against Utah State. The man pulling the throttle on offense is expected to be junior Jeff Quinn. He'll bark signals behind an offensive line undergoing as much repair work as a totaled-out car.

Fortunately, he has some possible All-America teammates to help him — tight end Junior Miller, running back I. M. Hipp and center Kelly Saalfeld.

While they may take time to blend with lesser-known names to produce a typically productive attack, Nebraska's battle cry is simple. It's "deeeeeeeeeee-fense."

You know, as in Black Shirts.

The Huskers have some voids to fill on the defensive side of the football, too. But if the old cigarette commercial is true — it's what's up front that counts — then Nebraska could make a habit of spending three downs on the field, then exiting stage left to give Quinn time to get his feet wet and his arm hot.

The masses could learn to love it. They could even learn to zero in on Kerry Weinmaster, the soft-spoken gent from North Platte with the quick hands, the quick feet and the quick tackle. Weinmaster will probably never play pro football. But he may be the most active middle guard ever to pull a Cornhusker jersey over his head.

Oh, well, not all championships are built strictly on NFL draft choices. Weinmaster's

three varsity letters cover as much heart as they do ability.

"Think Kerry Weinmaster is too short?" asks NU defensive line coach Charlie McBride. "Go ahead and try to block him if he's too small. When it comes right down to a football player, based on attitude, hustle and just knowing what to do, Kerry may be the best I've ever coached."

And one of the best Osborne has ever seen. Osborne was around when Wayne Meylan was an All-America middle guard in 1966 and '67. He also remembers the one-man wrecking crew Rich Glover became in those championship seasons of '71 and '72.

Yet Osborne doesn't flinch at all when he puts Weinmaster in the same sentence and the same category. For sheer unadulterated tenacity and bulldog spirit, Kerry Weinmaster is a champion.

Fortunately, he has another champion playing behind him in fellow senior Oudious Lee, and he's surrounded by even more champions at defensive tackle.

McBride has stockpiled defensive linemen like some people stock the basement, waiting for radioactive fallout. "As a group," he admits, "these kids are the best I've ever coached."

If Nebraska fielded the best offensive line in the school's history last fall, the Huskers may field their best defensive line in history this fall.

Defensive tackles seem to multiply in All-America listings, but if McBride had the opportunity, you probably wouldn't see him negotiating any trades with any teams. He's too proud of his "three starters" — All-Big Eight Rod Horn, All-Underrated Dan Pensick and All-Improved Bill Barnett, who probably had the best spring of the three.

"Horn is one of the strongest and most dedicated down linemen in the country," McBride says. "He takes film home to study on weekends. He should get a chance to play pro football."

So should Barnett and Pensick, the senior pair who split starting duty on right

tackle last fall. "They're both All-America candidates as far as I'm concerned," McBride says. "The thing I like best is their goals are team goals, not individual goals. They meet as a group and set goals. I know what some of them are, but I'm not telling anyone."

At least one of those goals has to do with goose eggs. Last year's complete shut-down of Iowa State was such a giddy experience that shutouts are now more than dreams. They're goals.

They are goals coming on the heels of humbling experiences against Missouri and Oklahoma. But they are goals coaches and athletes believe are possible to achieve.

Nebraska's defense is solid in the middle and strong at the heart, but it still has to deliver on the flanks, at linebacker and in the secondary. Graduation left some major voids in all three areas. The good news is Nebraska may have the talent to replace the question marks with exclamation points.

You might think losing defensive end and Los Angeles Rams first-round draft choice George Andrews is occasion to bring out a big box of Kleenex and weep.

You might think that, but defensive end coach George Darlington doesn't. Although he hates to see Andrews leave as much as anyone, he's hoping the Huskers are better this year as a defensive end tandem than they were last year.

The return of five of his top six defensive ends helps Darlington sleep very well as fall camp begins.

To avoid Lawrence Cole and Derrin Nelson splitting time at left defensive end, Darlington has moved Nelson to the right side. He saw enough from Nelson in spring practice to merit All-Big Eight potential this fall.

Nebraska All-America hopeful Rod Horn shows why the Cornhuskers' Black Shirts promise to give fits to opposing offenses this fall. Horn, fellow tackle Bill Barnett and middle guard Kerry Weinmaster promise to form the nucleus of a Big Red Stonehenge.

Mike Hennyak photo



we have more people who can play this year."

Lee Kunz and Bruce Dunning are gone, but Brent Williams and Tom Vering have arrived. Melton says they've paid their dues playing Avis. Now, it's time to see what it's like in a Hertz.

"Brent Williams had a great spring," Melton says. "If he plays like that this fall, he's liable to wind up All-Big Eight. He's got the size, the speed and he's a sure tackler. Vering isn't exactly the new face that Williams is. While Williams earned All-America junior college honors in California in 1977, Vering started for the Huskers at strong-

side linebacker. "Tom lost his job to Dunning last year," Melton says, "but it wasn't because he didn't play well or because we didn't think he could do the job. Dunning just came on and knocked him out of there. Vering's been around. He's fast and he gets to the right places."

Melton has found the same to be true of two red-shirted freshmen — Iowan Steve McWhirter and Lincoln's own Steve Damkroger. "They both remind me of Jerry Murtagh," Melton says of the 1970 Big Eight Defensive Player of the Year. "Straight away, their speed isn't that great — but boy, once that ball is snapped, watch out. They'll get away from the block and they'll get to you, even if they have to cover a lot of ground."

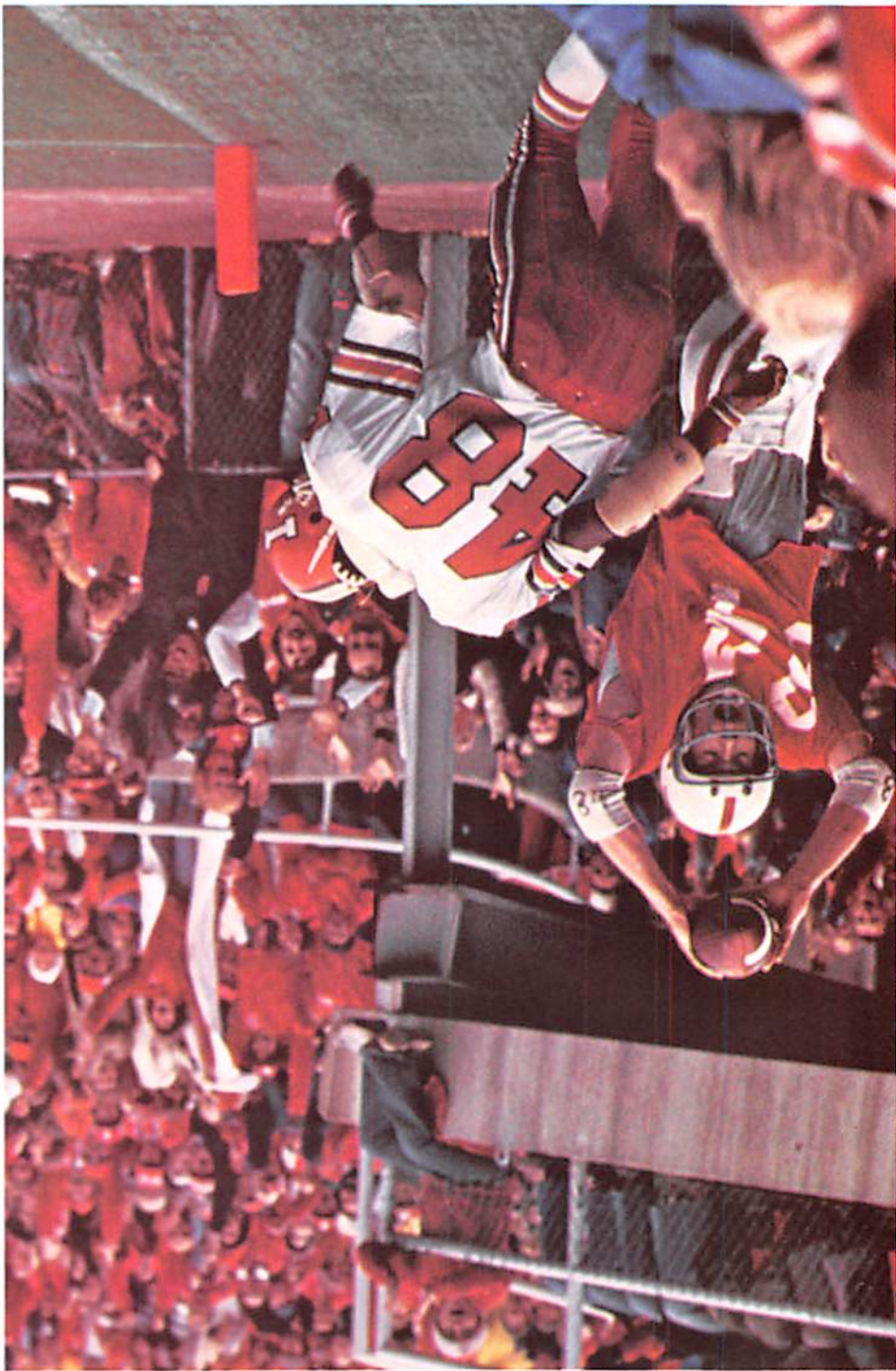
Defensive coordinator Lance Van Zandt is charged with Nebraska's biggest pre-season question mark on defense — the secondary. "Right now, I would say our secondary is about average overall with a chance to be good," Van Zandt offers. "We're going to miss people like Jimmy Pilleen, Tim Fischer and Jeff Hansen, but that's what college football is all about. We're not like the pros. We lose people and we have to replace them."

Van Zandt feels fortunate that Operation Replacement is not a wholesale reconstruction task. He does return two starters — safety Russell Gary and right cornerback Andy Means.

"Andy has really turned into a good corner," Van Zandt says. "He's got 12 games under his belt. Defensive backs are like offensive linemen. An experienced one is going to play better than an inexperienced one, even if the inexperienced one is a great athlete."

Considering how far back in the pack Means was just two short years ago, "People in Holdrege can't believe where he is now," Van Zandt says. "But I can. I've had seven corners make it in the NFL and before it's all over, Andy may be the best one yet. He's always worried about his job.

Tim Smith is one of an elite corps of returning Nebraska receivers. The 6-2 senior, who doubles as the squad's punter, signals a touchdown celebration with this catch which finished beyond the end line. Note the end-zone spectator who found a helmet-top view without occupying a seat.



Mike Hievyak photo

Cole and Nelson. Williams came on so fast in spring practice, Nebraska coaches saw shades of Willie Harper... and a possible All-America future written on the back of his jersey.

Although linebacker coach John Melton is the only defensive coach bankrupt of returning starters, he may be the most optimistic pre-season evangelist.

"We'll be as good, if not better than we were last year," he announces, "because

Cole and Nelson have the savvy and the speed to force as many turnovers as a small-town bakery. Last season each blocked a punt, intercepted a pass and recovered at least one fumble. Nelson's game-saving tackle helped Nebraska avert a major upset against Oklahoma State (22-14) at home.

Junior letterman Dan Lindstrom and sophomore walk-on Jimmy Williams from Washington, D.C., are quality backups for

I like that in a player. I like that a lot."

Van Zandt also likes the speed, the toughness and the experience of Gary, who will have to combine with Means for leadership in the secondary. They will be joined by newcomers Mark LeRoy at monster and Paul Letcher at left cornerback.

"LeRoy can play winning football," Van Zandt says. "He'll have to. People are used to watching Jimmy Pillen play that position every Saturday."

Left cornerback could develop into the most competitive position on Nebraska's defense. "Letcher's on top right now," Van Zandt allows, "but Ric Lindquist, Rodney Lewis and Dave Liegl should make it interesting."

If they don't, other teams will. Van Zandt advises all Big Red football fans to get their eyes checked and their glasses cleaned because they're going to be looking skyward at a barrage of passes this fall.

"I'd almost be willing to bet," he said, "that we'll see at least 300 passes thrown against us this season. At least I hope we do. That means we'll be doing the job of stopping the run. If a team doesn't have to pass, you're in trouble."

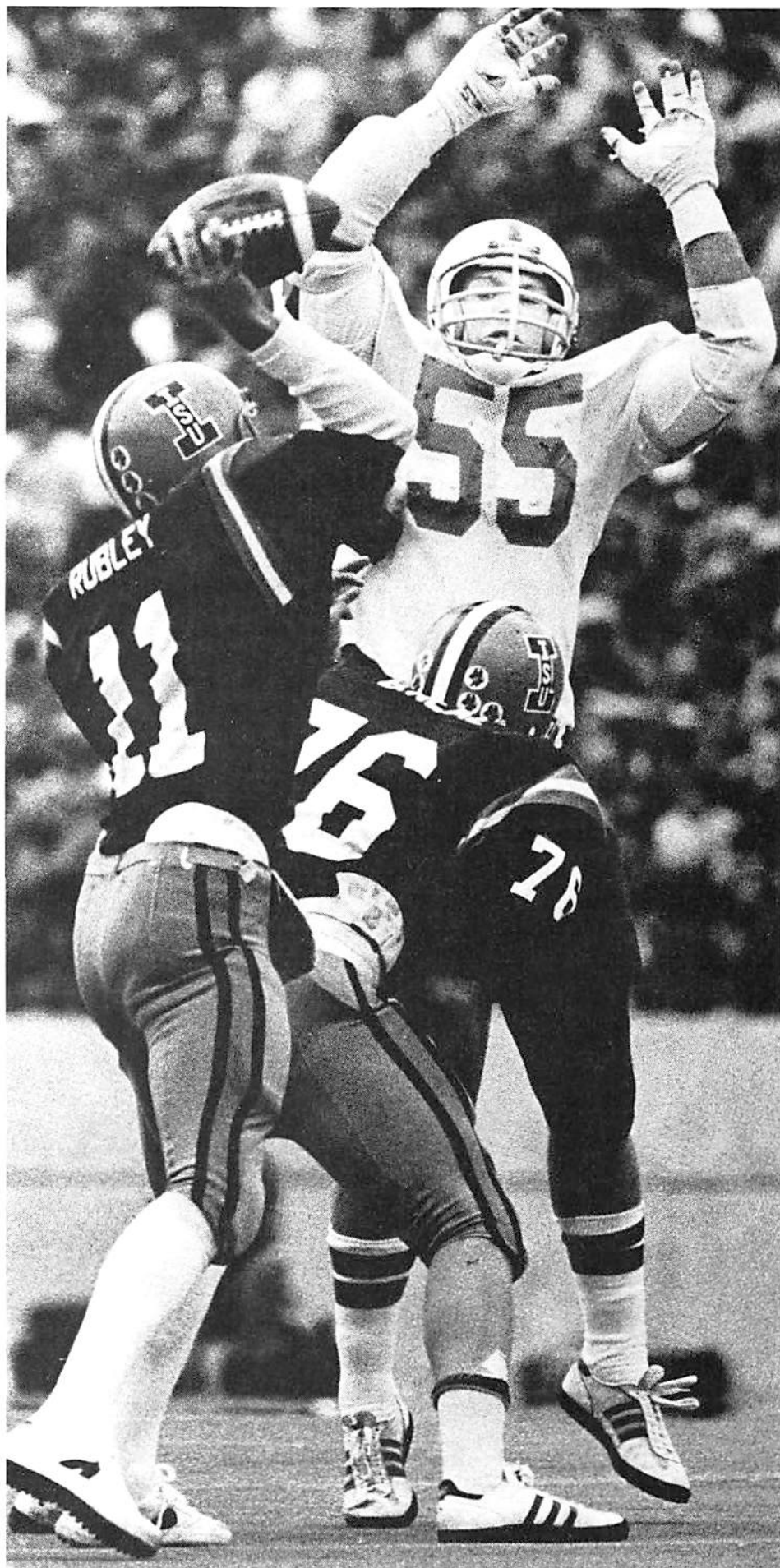
"We're going to see more passes than ever in the non-conference schedule. We're also going to see more in the Big Eight than we've seen in a long time. You know Missouri's going to throw the ball. Kansas, Kansas State and Oklahoma State also are going to put it in the air. Colorado will, too, with Chuck Fairbanks' background in the pros. Oklahoma will never throw a lot, but they might throw more than usual."

Nebraska's defense could make a throwing team throw even more. Last season Husker opponents averaged less than two yards a carry while trying to run outside. Nebraska also led the league in rushing defense, allowing 45 yards less a game than runnerup Oklahoma.

Utah State will be the first to test Van Zandt's theory.

"They might throw 50 or 60 times," Van Zandt says. "They have a great quarterback (Eric Hipple, who has 4,149 career passing yards). He has a super arm, a quick release and can he scramble! He will be exciting."

So, of course, will Nebraska and just because Quinn is an untested, relatively unknown quarterback, don't expect mediocre things from him. He has some abilities past Husker quarterbacks haven't



Rod Horn (55) shows why quarterbacks have difficulty finding their receivers. In this case, Iowa State's Terry Rubley (11) tries to hide behind guard Brian Neal (76).

Ted Kirk photo

had and Osborne's hoping that gives NU's offense a new dimension this fall.

"Jeff is probably the best running quarterback Nebraska has had since Dennis Claridge," Osborne says. "He might even be the best we've ever had."

Experience holds the ultimate truth and Quinn is confident he can carry the torch . . . if he remains number one through fall camp ahead of four other aspirants for the job — Mark Mauer, Bruce Mathison, Steve Michaelson and Tim Hager.

"The way things went in the spring, I know I can do it," Quinn says. "I felt like I could throw as well as I could run."

By late July, Osborne was agreeing. "Jeff will surprise people the way he can throw the ball. At the very least, he's an extremely adequate passer, but I think he'll be better than that."

"One thing's for sure," says Quinn. "Whoever plays quarterback is going to get the ball to the receivers because if it's close, those guys are going to pull the ball in. They make our job a lot easier. I'm not worried about getting the ball to them and I know they're not worried about getting the ball from me."

Despite Quinn's affinity to run and the

luxury of having a stable of talented running backs behind him, Nebraska still must throw the ball well to be successful, Osborne says.

"We might run a little more this year," he admits. "We might emphasize option football more than we have in the past. But I don't expect any drastic departure from what we've been doing. We still better be able to pass and run."

If the passing game drops off, it'll be disappointing because Nebraska has what Osborne calls the greatest group of skilled players ever assembled on campus at one time.

The discussion starts with third-team All-America tight end Junior Miller, the appropriately named Incredible Hulk who could psych himself to great heights this fall.

"I hope Junior has a fantastic year," NU receiver coach Gene Huey says. "He's come a long way, but he's not even playing to his potential yet. I hope he puts fear in people and establishes a reputation so they'll leave him alone. I want him to make an open and shut case about who's the best tight end in the league . . . and maybe the country. I want Junior to come out of the

chute and really go after it."

Huey isn't worrying about the man behind Miller. Junior Jeff Finn draws Huey's highest praise as a worker and an athlete. "He's very consistent," Huey says. "He may not be as great as Junior, but he's not going to hurt us when he's in there."

Two other highly dangerous receivers in the Husker air force are wingback Kenny Brown and split end Tim Smith. Brown is seeking his fourth varsity letter and Smith is bracing for his third season as a starter at split end.

Brown underwent knee surgery in June, but appeared almost back to full form one month later. Although his value to the team is maximized as receiver, runner and punt returner deluxe, Huey doesn't think Brown will be overused. "We want to give Kenny as many opportunities as we possibly can," he says, "because he's number one, without a doubt."

Still, the Huskers are blessed with tremendous depth at wingback. Tim McCrady and Anthony Steels are listed 2-3 behind Brown. But if Maurice McCloney is healthy, he deserves equal status. His 4.4 speed in the 40 probably even gives him an edge.

Smith's 4.6 speed is less mind-boggling, but he uses it to full potential. He runs a smoother pattern than a jet pilot and his hands will stick to the ball if it's anywhere close. In two years, it's been close a lot. Smith has snagged 49 passes for 752 yards and four touchdowns. He's also punted 99 times for a 40.1 average without ever having one blocked. His 804 minutes of varsity experience is the most on this year's offense team.

If "consistency" is Smith's trademark, "promise" defines the two players behind him — Scott Woodard and Todd Brown. Woodard is only 5-10 and 158, but he's a leaper and well qualified to make the acrobatic catch. Brown, faster than both Smith and Woodard, made gigantic strides his freshman season. He reminds Nebraska's coaching staff of Chuck Malito.

While the attention focuses on Quinn's ability to find and hit Nebraska's flock of proven receivers, a stable of proven runners will make it easier.

I. M. Hipp will try to achieve that magical land of three straight 1,000-yard rushing seasons. His 2,355-yard two-year total leaves him only 350 yards short of over-



Casting a wary eye toward the immediate future, I. M. Hipp, left, prepares for a collision with Iowa State's Mike Schwartz (26) and Scott Cole (50). Wingback Tim McCrady, right, can't seem to decide whether he should pull down the ball or his jersey.

Ted Kirk photos



taking Richard Berns as the Huskers' career rushing leader. Hipp has averaged a remarkable 5.8 yards for 406 carries. He's scored 17 touchdowns.

Going three-deep to Jarvis Redwine and Craig Johnson at I-back gives Nebraska the depth the Huskers used to only hope for . . . and watch Oklahoma have.

"One of the toughest things about the Big Eight Conference," Osborne says, "is the continual thumping you take. You need to have at least three good I-backs to stay in things like you should."

Redwine can turn on the burners, even in heavy traffic, because he likes to hit. "I've never had one that fast," Nebraska offensive backfield coach Mike Corgan admits. "I like how far Jarvis came last spring. I just hope it continues this fall."

Johnson, the Omaha Westside graduate who burst into prominence with 270 all-purpose yards and three touchdowns in the Huskers' romp over Kansas, could move to fullback if he's needed there.

Corgan is hoping otherwise, even though he admits depth at fullback concerns him more than anything.

Andra Franklin seized the starting job midway through his sophomore season and last spring flashed signs that he could challenge for all-conference honors this

year and maybe All-America honors later.

"Andra is very underrated," Corgan insists. "He doesn't get that many chances with the ball, but he makes them count. He may be one of the best fullbacks we've ever had here."

Jim Kotera backs up Franklin, but after him the picture is vague. Tim Wurth fits into both the I-back and fullback plans, if he can shake the negative effects of a chronic neck injury.

"Most of all," Corgan observes, "we lack size at fullback. It seems the linebackers and defensive ends get bigger and bigger, and the fullbacks keep getting smaller."

That problem doesn't happen in the offensive line, the biggest repair job Nebraska faces in fall camp. These players will open number one at their positions:

Saalfeld (6-3, 248), center; Randy Schleusener (6-5, 232), right guard; John Havekost (6-4, 240), left guard; Mike Bruce (6-6, 243), right tackle, and Dan Steiner (6-1, 238), left tackle.

The Huskers lost first-round draft pick Kelvin Clark to Denver, third-round pick Barney Cotton to Cincinnati, sixth-round pick Steve Lindquist to Miami and starting tackle Tom Oht to medical school.

"We've got the people, but getting them in the right place is the key," offensive line

coach Clete Fischer says. "We might have some problems if we faced Penn State the opening week (instead of the third week)."

Milt Tenopir, elevated to full-time status last winter to help Fischer in the offensive line, wishes everyone wouldn't push the off-season panic button.

"We have some class people," he says, "and I'll guarantee that by the third game they'll look like seasoned veterans. We've got 29 more practices this fall to get some problems ironed out."

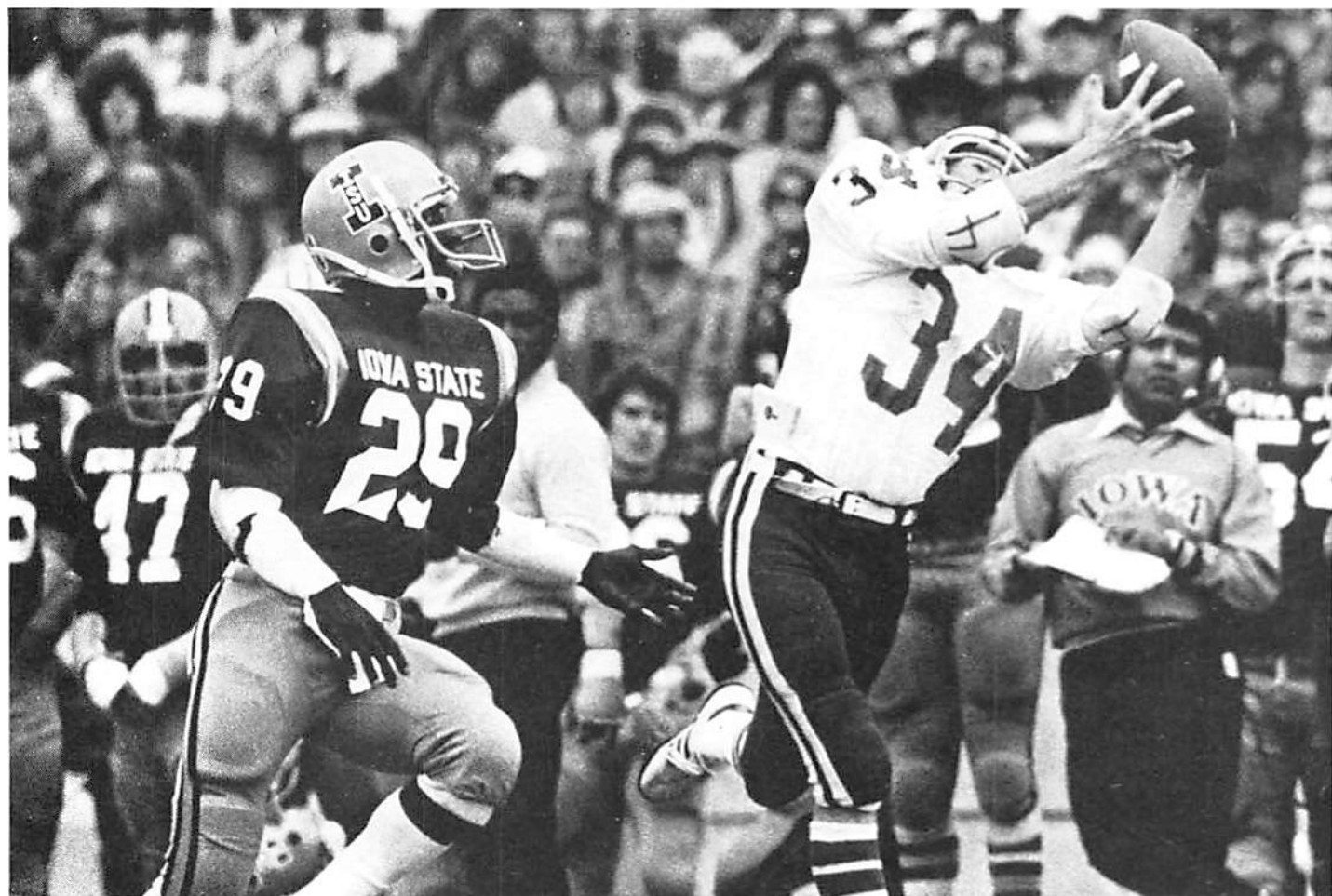
The coaching staff appears less worried about guard than tackle. Paul Potadie, John Keuten and Joe Adams are all possible starters. Tackle has the same possibilities for Gary England, Mark Goodspeed and Dan Hurley.

While they brace for rapid development, Saalfeld will anchor at center in his dependable style.

"Kelly can do as many or more things than either Tom Davis or Rik Bonness could do," Tenopir offers. "His balance and agility give us an opportunity to do a lot

An Iowa State aide tries to produce body English for the too-long pass intercepted by NU's Andy Means (34) that was intended for Ray Hardee (29).

Ted Kirk photo



of things we couldn't do in the past."

Considering how successful the past has been for Nebraska, it's easy to become optimistic despite the rebuilding process in the line.

In the 1979 Husker press guide, Nebraska assistant athletic director and sports information director Don Bryant makes these points about Dr. Tom Osborne.

- He's never won less than nine games a season for six consecutive years.
- His teams have been invited to six straight bowl games (and won four).
- After carving his second Big Eight co-championship, he's everyone's reigning Coach of the Year.

Combine Osborne's accomplishments with a tradition of 17 consecutive winning seasons (tied with USC for second in the country behind Alabama's 21), nine or more wins in 15 of those 17 seasons, bowl games in 15 of those 17 seasons, winning or sharing the Big Eight title 10 of those 17 seasons, two national championships and 99 consecutive home-game sellouts, an NCAA record.

The only thing Bryant failed to point out was the partridge in the pear tree.

Nebraska, having won 8 of 10 bowl games in the last decade to lead the nation, is also shooting for its 10th consecutive season among the nation's top 10-rated teams.

"There's one thing you can be sure of," Osborne says. "All of us are aware of what the Nebraska fans expect from us each fall. We know what we're supposed to do and the players and coaches put forth a lot of effort to achieve the objectives we all are interested in attaining. We hope our achievements are equal to or exceed our goals."

Osborne, more than anyone, realizes how much everything must come into place for Nebraska to repeat as the best offensive team in college football this fall.

But he seems to prefer the doubt rest more with the offense than the defense.

"If I had to make a choice," he says, "I'd much rather have an outstanding defense and a good offense. You can win championships with that combination, but you can't the other way around."

It's obvious that Tom Osborne, the head coach and the quarterback coach, doesn't buy the philosophy that unproven quarterbacks equal unattainable titles.

He fits into the other category — the camp that says a great defense can win a conference championship.

Cross your fingers. It's almost time to find out.



NU head coach Tom Osborne looks like he would appreciate the use of a megaphone.

Ted Kirk photo.



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HUSKER SCORECARD

Husker Track Recruits

Coach Frank Sevigne, not one given to excessive praise, admitted it was an "outstanding recruiting year" for his NU track team.

Assistant coach Dick Railsback persuaded three athletes to leave California — two from junior colleges, the other a prep All-American from North Hollywood — to complement a group of 10 other recruits that includes Paul Blanchard, who had the fourth best prep time in the country last season for 600 yards, and three Jamaicans.

"It wasn't that I set a goal to get guys in California, but you feel like you might as well go to the people you know, and I've got some contacts there," said Railsback, who is from the Los Angeles area. "It's tough to

recruit in California, no question. But, hopefully, we've set a precedent."

Distance runner Phil Shirley competed at Notre Dame High School in Hollywood. He has run a 4:12.5 mile and, according to one opposing coach, "He's one of the finest distance runners in the country. It's pure and simple."

The California junior college recruits are Mark Newton, the state JC pole-vault champion whose best is 16-6, and Monte Callender, a sprinter from Detroit who has a 47.0 quarter to his credit.

Blanchard comes to Nebraska from Scituate, Massachusetts, the home of Husker sophomore Paul Downes. In addition to his 1:12.1 effort in the 600, Blanchard has run 1:54 in the 880.

Sevigne will bring in two sprinters and a

jumper from Jamaica. Jon Jones, from Clarendon, has triple-jumped 49-8 and long-jumped 24-1. Norman Mills and Charles Lawrence both run the 220 and 440.

Iowa's state high school long-jump champion Wade Harrington, of Davenport, also signed a national letter of intent with Nebraska.

Huskers at National Sports Festival

Jim Hartung and Larry Gerard, members of the NCAA champion gymnastics team, were individual winners in the National Sports Festival competition in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Gerard, who has graduated, won the still rings with a 19.30 score. Hartung finished first in floor exercise, 19.25, and third in both vaulting and parallel bars. He'll be a sophomore at Nebraska this winter.

Phil Cahoy, a Husker recruit who comes from Hartung's high school in Omaha (South), finished tied for third in the high bar and fourth in the pommel horse.

In track and field competition, NU's Ken Drwal finished fifth in the javelin. Drwal's best throw, 237-2, was his second best ever. Former Husker and NU school record-holder Scott Sorchik won the javelin.

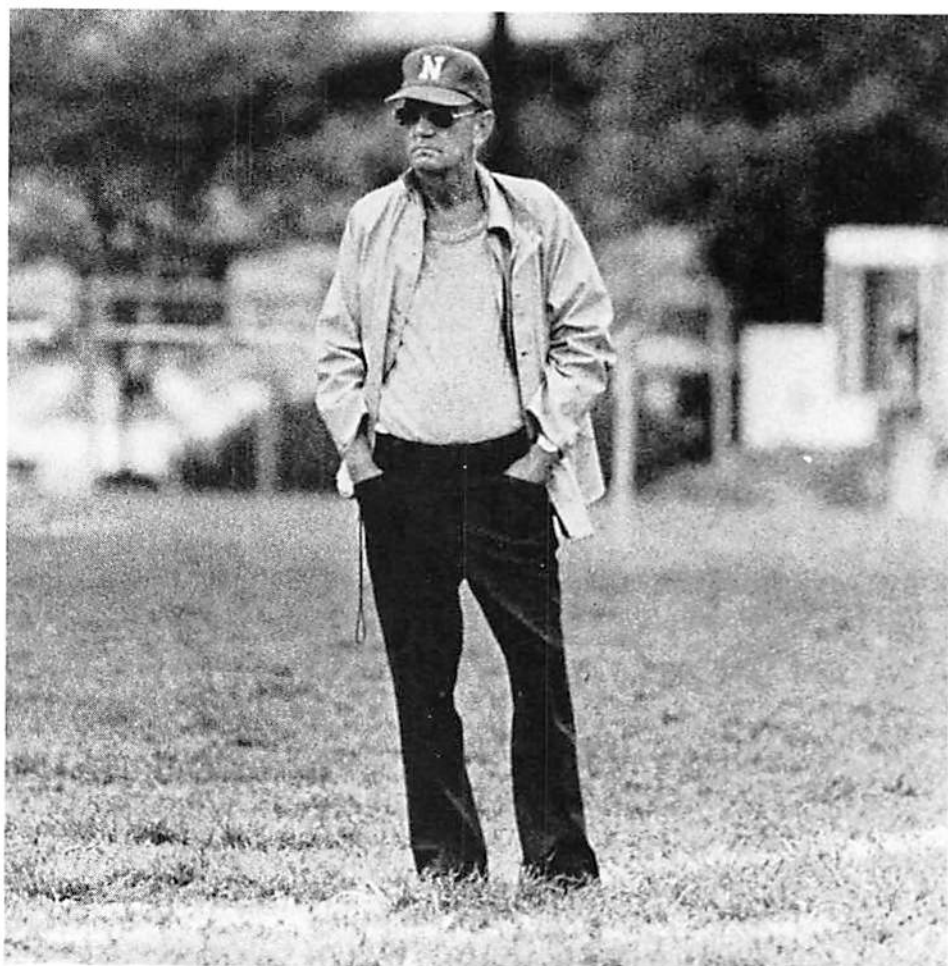
Scherger in Japan

Husker outfielder Joe Scherger hit .438 for a United States collegiate all-star team which toured Japan during July.

In a critical game at a Tokyo stadium, Scherger came off the bench to single twice and drive in three runs in a 10-6 victory.

"I felt fortunate just getting the call," said Scherger. "It was a very valuable experience." The senior-to-be from Billings, Mont., was drafted by the New York Mets last spring, but declined their offer.

— Mike Babcock



Veteran NU track coach Frank Sevigne studies one of his prizes from a distant vantage point.

Ted Kirk photo

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AROUND THE LEAGUE

1979 Football Schedule

DATE	COLORADO 	IOWA STATE 	KANSAS 	KANSAS STATE 
Sept. 8	OREGON			
Sept. 15	LOUISIANA STATE	BOWLING GREEN	at Pittsburg	at Auburn
Sept. 22	DRAKE	at Texas	at Michigan	OREGON STATE
Sept. 29	at Indiana	at Iowa	NORTH TEXAS STATE	at Air Force
Oct. 6	at Oklahoma	UNIV. OF THE PACIFIC	SYRACUSE	TULSA
Oct. 13		at Kansas State	at Nebraska	IOWA STATE
Oct. 20	MISSOURI	KANSAS	at Iowa State	OKLAHOMA
Oct. 27	at Nebraska	at Oklahoma	OKLAHOMA STATE	at Missouri
Nov. 3	at Iowa State	COLORADO	KANSAS STATE	at Kansas
Nov. 10	OKLAHOMA STATE	MISSOURI	at Oklahoma	NEBRASKA
Nov. 17	at Kansas	at Nebraska	COLORADO	at Oklahoma State
Nov. 24	KANSAS STATE	OKLAHOMA STATE	MISSOURI	at Colorado
DATE	MISSOURI 	NEBRASKA 	OKLAHOMA 	OKLAHOMA STATE 
Sept. 8	SAN DIEGO STATE			NORTH TEXAS STATE
Sept. 15	at Illinois	UTAH STATE	IOWA	WICHITA STATE
Sept. 22	at Mississippi	at Iowa	TULSA	Arkansas at Little Rock
Sept. 29	TEXAS	PENN STATE	at Rice	
Oct. 6		NEW MEXICO STATE	COLORADO	at South Carolina
Oct. 13	OKLAHOMA STATE	KANSAS	Texas at Dallas	at Missouri
Oct. 20	at Colorado	at Oklahoma State	at Kansas State	NEBRASKA
Oct. 27	KANSAS STATE	COLORADO	IOWA STATE	at Kansas
Nov. 3	NEBRASKA	at Missouri	at Oklahoma State	OKLAHOMA
Nov. 10	at Iowa State	at Kansas State	KANSAS	at Colorado
Nov. 17	OKLAHOMA	IOWA STATE	at Missouri	KANSAS STATE
Nov. 24	at Kansas	at Oklahoma	NEBRASKA	at Iowa State
FINAL 1978 BIG EIGHT STANDINGS			Orange Blossom Special	
	Conference	Overall	<p>The Big Eight Conference race for the football oranges — a New Year's Night date in the Orange Bowl — promises to be a wide-open, hectic affair with the likes of Nebraska, Oklahoma and Missouri considered the best pre-season bets. The league features new head coaches at four of the eight member universities this fall and two others will be entering only their second season. Tom Osborne at Nebraska and Barry Switzer at Oklahoma are co-deans of the league's coaches with six years each.</p>	
Oklahoma	6-1	11- 1		
Nebraska	6-1	9- 3		
Iowa State	4-3	8- 4		
Missouri	4-3	8- 4		
Kansas State	3-4	4- 7		
Oklahoma State	3-4	3- 8		
Colorado	2-5	6- 5		
Kansas	0-7	1-10		



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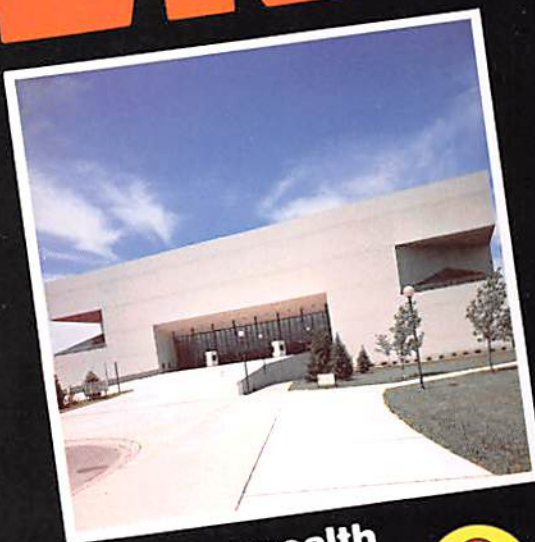
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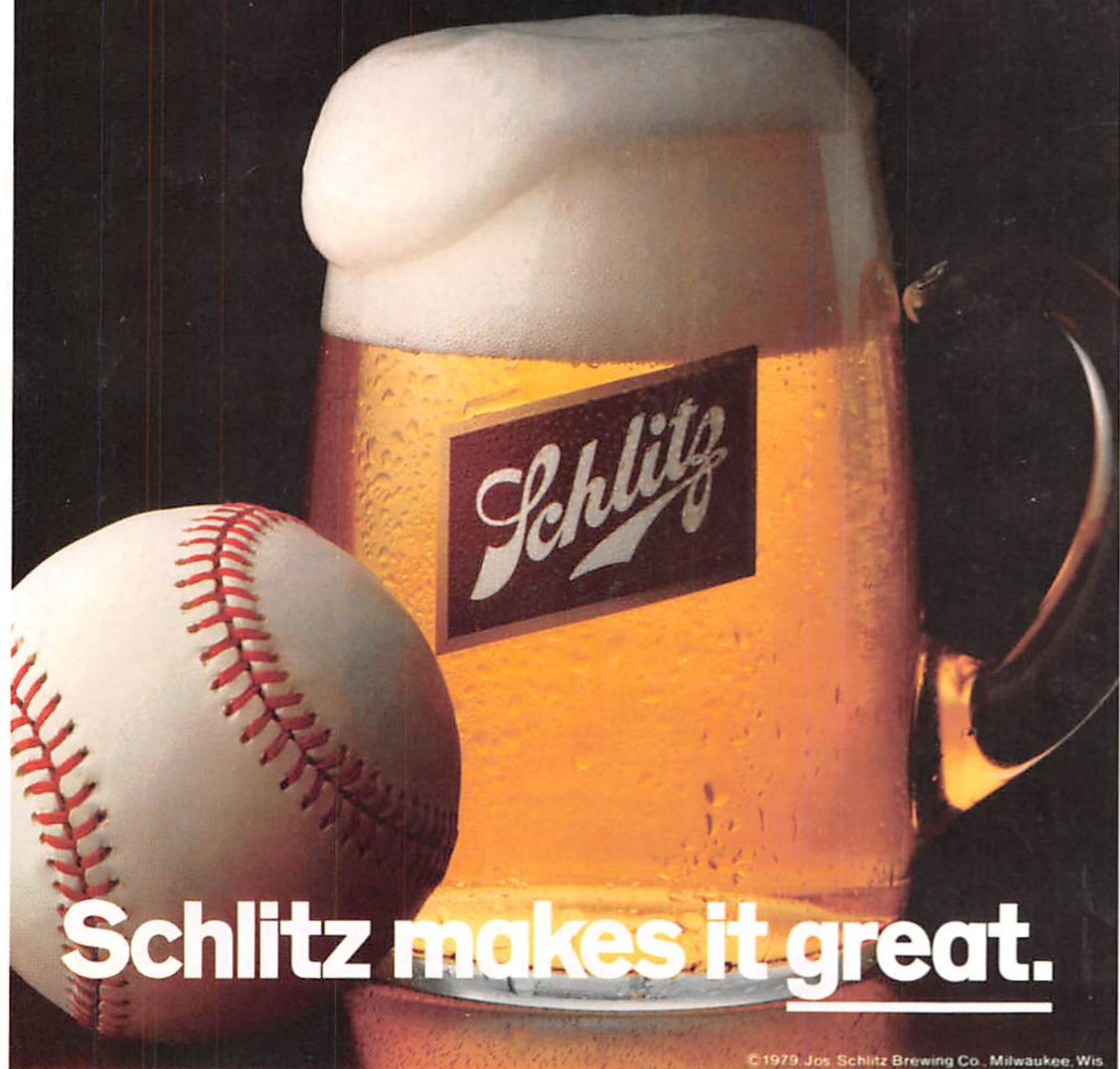
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